

Message Text

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: BTIO, BR
SUBJECT: EARLY WARNING REPORT - SAO PAULO METROPOLITAN AIRPORT

FOR MAJOR EXPORTS PRODUCTS DIVISION/BIC

REF: 74 RIO DE JANEIRO A-84

SUMARY: ON JANUARY 12, THE BRAZILIAN AIR MINISTRY AND SAO PAULO STATE GOVERNMENT CALLED FOR BIDS BY FEBRUARY 2, 1976 FROM BRAZILIAN ENGINEERING CONSULTING FIRM FOR A SITE STUDY FOR NEW AIRPORT IN SAO PAULO. BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES ESTIMATE CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN IN 1977, WITH THE FIRST STAGE SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BY THE END OF 1982. THE TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT MAY APPROACH US\$ 500 MILLION. ACTION REQUESTED: POST SUGGESTS MAJOR EXPORT PRODUCTS DIVISION ADVISE US CONSULTING ENGINEERS ESPECIALIZING IN AIRPORT DESIGN BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUBCONTRACT END SUMMARY.

1. BRAZIL'S AIR MINISTRY AND SAO PAULO STATE OF SAO PAULO HAVE FORMED AN AIRPORT COMMISSION TO SELECT A CONSULTING FIRM THAT WILL STUDY TWO SITES FOR LARGE MODERN AIRPORT TO SERVE METROPOLITAN SAO PAULO. THE COMMISSION GRUPO DE TRABALHO DO NOVO AEROPORTO DE SAO PAULO (GT-AERO-SP), IS HEADED BY GENERAL PAULO BELTRAO DO VALLE AND IS LOCATED AT AVENIDA REPUBLICA DO LIBANO 2050 IN SAO PAULO.

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2. THE COMMISSION MET FOR THE FIRST TIME ON JANUARY 5 AND ISSU-

ED A CALL FOR BIDS ON JANUARY 12, 1976. BID DOCUMENTS COST CR\$ 10,000 (US\$ 1109)

ONLY BRAZILIAN INCORPORATED FIRMS WITH PAID-IN CAPITAL OF AT LEAST CR\$ 5 MILLION (US\$ 554,324) ARE ELIGIBLE TO BID. BID MUST BE COMPLETED IN 20 DAYS - BID DEADLINE IS 3:00 PM, FEBRUARY 2, 1976.

3. CONSULTING FIRM SELECTED WILL HAVE 90 DAYS TO STUDY TWO SITES FOR THE NEW AIRPORT - VIRACOPOS AND IBIUNA. ALTERNATIVE SITE:... CANNOT BE PROPOSED. VIRACOPOS, LOCATED 96 KM BY ROAD FROM SAO PAULO ON THE EDGE OF THE CITY OF CAMPINAS, IS THE SITE OF THE EXISTING AIRPORT SERVING MOST INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN THE SAO PAULO AREA. IBIUNA IS AN UNDEVELOPED AGRICULTURAL AREA ABOUT 55 KM, AIRLINE MILES SOURS- WEST OF SAO PAULO. EXPANSION AND MODERNIZATION OF VIRACOPOS WAS RECOMMENDED BY THE AIR MINISTRY IN A FORMAL STUDY COMMISSIONED IN MARCH 1974. SAO PAULO STATE OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, INSISTED ON CHOOSING A SITE FOR THE NEW AIRPORT AND THE STATE'S AVIATION DEPARTMENT (DEPARTAMENTO AEROVIARIO DO ESTADO DE SAO PAULO - DAESP) PROPOSED IBIUNA IN SEPTEMBER 1975. THEREFORE THIS STUDY WILL INCLUDE RE-EXAMINATION OF PREVIOUS STUDIES AND A NEW SITE SURVEY. DOCUMENTS SUPPLIED TO BIDDERS CONTAIN COPIES OF STUDIES ON VIR A- COPOS AND IBIUNA PREPARED BY FEDERAL AND STATE AUTHORITIES. PREVIOUS STUDIES AS WELL AS STUDY TO BE PERFORMED BY WINNING BIDDER ARE BASED ON ICAO CRITERIA FOR AIRPORT LOCATION AND ONLY CONCERN SITE CONSIDERATION E.G., ACCESS, METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS? REGIONAL TRAFFIC PATTERNS, ETC.

4. A COMMISSION OFFICIAL TOLD CONGEN OFFICER THAT THEY EXPECT A MAXIMUM OF 15 BIDDERS. BECAUSE FEW BRAZILIAN CONSULTING FIRMS HAVE THE TECHNICAL CAPACITY AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO BID ON THIS PROJECT, MOST OF BIDDERS ARE EXPECTED TO BE IN CONSORTIUM WITH FOREIGN FIRMS SPECIALIZING IN AIRPORT TECHNOLOGY. AT LEAST 4 OF THE CURRENT BIDDERS ARE IN CONSORTIUM WITH US COMPANIES - MORRISON-KNUDSEN, TABERT COX & ASSOCIATES, COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIATES, AND BOEING. THE FOLLO- WING US FIRMS HAVE CONTACTED AMCONSULS RIO DE JANEIRO AND SAO PAU- IN THE PAST ABOUT THE SAO PAULO AIRPORT PROJECT: PIEDMONT ENGINEE- RING, PARSONS ENGINEERING CORP.; NORTHUP AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT; UNCLASSIFIED

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R. DIXON-SPEAS ASSOCIATES; TIBBETS-ABBETT-MCCARTHY-STRATTON; HOWARD, NEEDLES, TAMMEN, AND BERGENDORF; AND , HENNERSON, DURHAM AND RIC- HARDSON.

5. REFAIR EMPHASIZED THAT US FIRMS INTERESTED IN AIRPORT PROJECTS IN BRAZIL MUST ESTABLISH OFFICES HERE. HOWEVER, US CONSULTING EN- GINEERS NOT YET ESTABLISHED IN BRAZIL STILL MAY HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO PERFORM SUBCONTRACT WORK FOR THE SITE SURVEY BECAUSE SUBCONTRA-

CTING OF FOREIGN FIRMS WILL BE PERMITTED, ACCORDING TO A COMMISS-
ON ION OFFICIAL.

MORE IMPORTANT, UPON COMPLETION OF THE STUDY BY JUNE 1976 AND
FINAL SELECTION OF THE SITE, A NEW TENDER WILL PROBABLY BE ANNOUNCED
LATER THIS YEAR FOR DETAILED DESIGN AND ENGINEERING PLANS FOR THE
AIRPORT.

6. WHILE IT CAN BE EXPECTED THAT BRAZILIAN CONCERNS WILL BE IN
FAVORED POSITION, THIS STUDY AND THE PROJECT ITSELF MAY OFFER
OPPORTUNITIES FOR US PARTICIPATION IN VARIOUS PHASES. THEREFORE,
WE RECOMMEND THAT APPROPRIATE US FIRMS BE APPRAISED OF THIS PROJECT.
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